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Identical letters dated 6 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to apprise you of the bloody terrorist bombing that occurred in Hasakah city on Tuesday, 5 July 2016.

On the last day of the blessed month of Ramadan, just one day before Eid al-Fitr, armed terrorist groups that receive support from abroad sent a bloody and hate-filled message to the steadfast people of Hasakah. A suicide attacker on a motorcycle blew himself up in the midst of a group of innocent civilians in front of a bakery in the Salihiyah neighbourhood of the city, killing 16 civilians and causing injuries of varying levels of severity to 27 others, including women, children and elderly persons. The explosion also caused material damage to public and private property. The terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant later claimed responsibility for this vile criminal act.

The above-mentioned cowardly criminal act was preceded by another suicide attack. On 19 June 2016, a terrorist blew himself up in the Wastani neighbourhood of Qamishli, Hasakah governorate, killing three civilians and causing injuries of varying levels of severity to five others. Terrorist groups have used car and motorcycle bombs and explosive belts to cause death and destruction among civilians in the numerous terrorist bombings have occurred in the above-mentioned city. Most of the victims in all of these bombings have been children, women and elderly persons. This cowardly bombing comes on the heels of the bloody bombing those same terrorist groups perpetrated in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, killing and injuring hundreds of the kindred Iraqi people.

Yesterday's terrorist bombing and other such bombings are part of the systematic campaign of terrorism, killing and destruction being waged by terrorist groups against innocent civilians in every city, village and town in Syria. In perpetrating these crimes, the terrorists are implementing the policies of their masters in the hateful and extremist regimes that rule in Riyadh, Ankara and Doha, and in certain well-known Western States. The aim of those policies is to prolong the misery of the Syrian people, which has been suffering for more than five years from the consequences of the terrorism and inhuman crimes perpetrated by the terrorist proxies and armed terrorist groups that are funded and supported by parties from the region and beyond, and by the nefarious ruling regimes in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Turkey, Britain, France and the United States. Meanwhile, the Syrian

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people's suffering has been exacerbated by the coercive unilateral measures imposed by those same regimes. The purpose of these hateful terrorist attacks is to lift the spirits of the armed terrorist groups, whose morale has been waning because of the Syrian people's resistance and the daily victories that the Syrian Arab Army and its allies and friends have scored against cross-border terrorism and the groups that perpetrate such terrorism. Those are the very groups that some continue to designate "the moderate armed opposition" in an attempt to justify their criminal acts against the Syrian people and the fact that they continue to collaborate with and fund and support terrorists.

The Security Council is called on to take immediately deterrent and punitive measures against those regimes that support and fund terrorism, particularly the regimes in Riyadh, Doha and Ankara. The Council should prevent them from continuing to support terrorism and endangering international peace and security, and compel them to implement fully Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), 2199 (2015) and 2253 (2015). Certain States members of the Security Council have refused to include the Army of Islam and Ahrar al-Sham, which are affiliates of the Nusrah Front terrorist organization, on the Council's lists of terrorist groups and entities. Their refusal to do so not only implicates those States and encourages others to turn a blind eye to the crimes committed by the terrorist groups, it also confirms that those States are not sincere about countering terrorism, which threatens the security, stability and safety of all the world's peoples.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic stresses that these vile massacres and terrorists crimes will not deter it from protecting the Syrian people by continuing to combat terrorism, nor will they blunt its determination to bring about a political solution to the crisis through an intra-Syrian dialogue and a Syrian-led process, without outside interference, that will lead to the elimination of terrorism. The Government will be the agent that galvanizes the efforts and energies needed to rebuild what the terrorists and their partners, financial backers and supporters have destroyed, and to restore security and stability to the Syrian people.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative